Grants to set up IT Parks

†2161. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether various States are provided Central grants to set up IT parks;

(b) if so, the number of IT parks set up in Uttarakhand during the preceding years; and

(c) if not, the details of the IT parks to be set up in the State in future?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Science and Technology does not provide Central grants to set up IT parks. However, the Department of Science and Technology has promoted Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Parks (STEPs) established in academic institutions for nurturing entrepreneurship amongst S&T persons.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Job Potential in Taxtile Sector

2162. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whther it is a fact that textile sector would create 65 million jobs by 2010;

(b) whether it is also a fact that textile sector growth would go up to 22 per cent by 2010;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that to achieve the above targets there is a need to take quick reforms in the sector; and

(e) if so, what innovation and new initiatives have been taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the targets in textile sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As per the Report of the Working Group on Textile and Jute Industry for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007—12), the estimated employment in the textile industry is expected to increase from 33.17 million persons as on 31.3.2006 to 45.19 million persons by the terminal year of the Eleventh Plan. Employment in the allied industries is expected to increase from 54.85 million persons to 60.20 million persons. Consequently, the total employment in the textile sector including allied industries is projected to increase to 105.39 million persons in 2011-12 from the present level of 88.02 million persons, resulting in a net addition of 17.37 million persons.

(b) and (c) The vision projected by the textile industry envisages that cloth production would grow at 12% and the total turnover at 16% per annum during the Eleventh Five Year Plan and reach a level of US$ 115 billion by the terminal year of the Eleventh Plan.

(d) and (e) In order to achieve the projected level of growth, it is necessary to address the various handicaps of the manufacturing sector such as deficiencies in transport infrastructure, inadequate power supply, inflexible labour laws etc. In addition to making concerted efforts to address such handicaps, the Government is implementing specific schemes such as Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) etc. with a view to modernizing the textile industry and enabling the industry to benefit from economies of scale and integrated production.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.